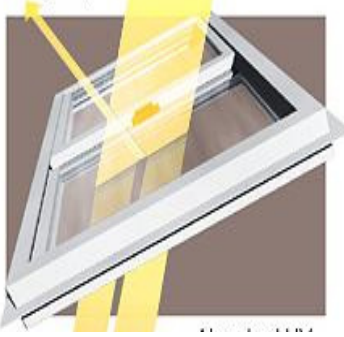


# What is Energy Efficiency?

## TOP 10 SOLUTIONS TO INCREASED ENERGY NEEDS



**INSULATION:** Homes lose an average of 26% of their air conditioning due to leaking duct work. Texas residents and businesses could be saving money while saving energy by tightening leaks in homes and commercial buildings.

**WINDOW IMPROVEMENTS:** Approximately 30% of the unwanted heat that enters homes comes in through windows. High performance (low energy) windows can block unwanted heat from entering homes and commercial buildings.



**APPLIANCES:** EPA-rated ENERGY STAR appliances use 25-40% less energy than other models, saving energy and money.



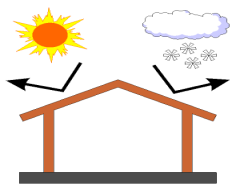
**AIR CONDITIONING:** Efficient air conditioners can reduce energy use by 38%. Tuning up your current A/C system would cost \$100-200, which energy savings would repay within 1-2 years. Improvements in heating, ventilation and air conditioning can save you money!

**LIGHTING:** Costs can be cut up to 50% and energy use reduced by 75% by replacing lights in high-use areas with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs). CFLs last up to 10,000 hours and save an average \$30-50 in total cost.



**SOLAR WATER HEATING:** Solar water heating can save you average of 50-80% on your heating bills. The U.S. Energy Policy Act gives consumers who install solar heating systems a 30% tax credit. City incentives can further improve the cost-effectiveness of solar projects.

**GEOTHERMAL HEATING:** Emissions are reduced with geothermal technologies because no fuels are combusted. A geothermal heat pump can cut electricity costs by 30-60% and they deliver 3-4 times more energy than they consume.



**COOL ROOFS:** Reflective roofing in commercial buildings can cut cooling costs by as much as 10-30%. Rooftop temperatures can be reduced by 50°-60°F during peak summer months. Use a cool roof calculator for your home or office.  
<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/roofs+wallsfactsCoolCalcEnergy.htm>

## What your communities can do to reduce energy needs and save money

**COMBINED HEATING & POWER (CHP):** Highly efficient combined heat and power generators can generate electricity and heat at 70-80% efficiency, twice that of a new coal plant, while emitting less pollution. They can also reduce costs by 19%.



### BETTER BUILDING CODES:

A national group of architects developed the 2030 challenge to increase building efficiency by 50% which was also adopted by the U.S. Council of Mayors. Improved building standards could save new developments money during the life of the building as well as provide job creation for new energy efficiency technologies.